

[REDACTED]

7 November 1962

NOTE TO CONTROL DIVISION:

Subject: Recommended US Reaction to Hostile Attack  
of US Reconnaissance Aircraft Over Cuba

At their meeting at 0900 hours on 7 November 1962 the Joint Chiefs of Staff considered the above subject and a paper tabled by the Director, Joint Staff (J-5 C-9-62). After extensive discussion of the subject the Chairman summarized the agreed views of the Joint Chiefs of Staff as set forth below and instructed General Enrick (J-5) in the meeting to prepare a draft memorandum to the Secretary of Defense responding to Presidential inquiry for the views of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on this subject. The actions agreed by the JCS as summarized by the Chairman were:

- a. We should establish whether the incident was an isolated incident or an indication of deliberate intent to resist US air surveillance over Cuba.
- b. We should protest the incident to the USSR at the UN and endeavor to determine Soviet attitude.
- c. If an isolated incident, we should take appropriate limited retaliatory action.


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d. If deliberate intent to resist is indicated, we should attack all the air defense systems and consider a full blockade.

  
R. B. SPILMAN  
Lt Col, USA  
Chief, Control Div

NOTE: This policy was subsequently approved and issued in final form as JCSM 872-62.